Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) An expandable tubular stent comprising:

an expandable tubular body having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, and

a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured to a cylindrical wall section and a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall section and configured to provide both expansion and contraction between adjacent cylindrical wall sections.

2. (original) The expandable tubular stent of claim 1, wherein the S-shaped connectors comprise a double curvature shape.

3. (original) The expandable tubular stent of claim 1, wherein the connecting members are secured to proximate points of adjacent cylindrical wall section.

4. (original) The expandable tubular stent of claim 2, wherein the connecting members are secured to proximate points of adjacent cylindrical wall sections.

5. (original) The expandable tubular stent of any claims 1 to 4, wherein the S-shaped connectors, connect at least some of the longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall sections extending along an intermediate section of the stent which is disposed between ends of the stent.

6. (original) An expandable tubular stent comprising:

an expandable tubular body having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, having an unexpanded and expanded configuration; and

a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured to a cylindrical wall section and a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall section and configured to provide a flexibility in both the expanded and unexpanded configurations.

7. (original) An expandable tubular stent comprising:

an expandable tubular body having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall segments including a first cylindrical wall segment at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall segment at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall segment between the first and second cylindrical wall segments, and at least one extendable connector which has a first end secured to a cylindrical wall segment at a first location and a second end secured to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall segment at a second location circumferentially off set from the first location.

8. (original) The expandable tubular stent of claim 7, wherein the at least one extendable connector has an S-shape.

9. (original) The expandable tubular stent of claim 7, wherein the at least one extendable connector has a double curvature.

10. (original) The expandable tubular stent of claim 7, wherein the at least one extendable connector is configured to provide both expansion and contraction between adjacent cylindrical wall segments.

11. (original) The expandable stent of claim 7, wherein a plurality of cylindrical wall segments have at least one extendable connector which has a first end secured to

a cylindrical wall segment at a fist location and a second end secured to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall segment at a second location circumferentially off set from the first location.

12. (new) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:

a catheter having a prosthesis delivery balloon;

an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon; and having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, and

a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured to a cylindrical wall section and a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall section and configured to provide both expansion and contraction between adjacent cylindrical wall sections.

13. (new) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the S-shaped connectors comprise a double curvature shape.

14. (new) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the connecting members are secured to proximate points of adjacent cylindrical wall section.

15. (new) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the connecting members are secured to proximate points of adjacent cylindrical wall sections.

16. (new) The assembly of any claims 12 to 15, wherein the S-shaped connectors, connect at least some of the longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall sections extending along an intermediate section of the stent which is disposed between ends of the stent.

17. (new) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:

a catheter having a prosthesis delivery balloon;

an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon and having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall sections including

a first cylindrical wall section at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall section at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall section between the first and second cylindrical wall sections, having an unexpanded and expanded configuration; and

a plurality of S-shaped connectors which extend between and are secured to a cylindrical wall section and a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall section and configured to provide a flexibility in both the expanded and unexpanded configurations.

18. (new) A catheter/prosthesis assembly comprising:

a catheter body having a prosthesis delivery balloon;

an expandable tubular body mounted on the prosthesis delivery balloon and having a first end, a second end, a plurality of interconnected cylindrical wall segments including a first cylindrical wall segment at the first end of the tubular body, a second cylindrical wall segment at the second end of the tubular body, and at least one intermediate cylindrical wall segment between the first and second cylindrical wall segments, and at least one extendable connector which has a first end secured to a cylindrical wall segment at a first location and a second end secured to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall segment at a second location circumferentially off set from the first location.

19. (new) The assembly of claim 18, wherein the at least one extendable connector has an S-shape.

20. (new) The assembly of claim 18, wherein the at least one extendable connector has a double curvature.

21. (new) The assembly of claim 18, wherein the at least one extendable connector is configured to provide both expansion and contraction between adjacent cylindrical wall segments.

22. (new) The assembly of claim 18, wherein a plurality of cylindrical wall segments have at least one extendable connector which has a first end secured to a cylindrical

wall segment at a fist location and a second end secured to a longitudinally adjacent cylindrical wall segment at a second location circumferentially off set from the first location.